Descendants of
John Constantine Williams
Creator of
St. Petersburg, Florida

A Genealogy Compiled by Thomas O. Ziebold, Ph.D.
The origin of the cover photograph is not known for sure, but judging from the apparent ages of the sitters, we may guess that it was made about 1880-85. John C. Williams, Senior, is seated at the right end of the front row. Third from left in the back row is an inserted cutting of Sarah Craven Judge Williams, his second wife. On the basis of the children’s ages, we may again guess that from left to right in the front are Cornelia Mott (oldest daughter), John C., Jr., and Mary, and in the back row from left are Barnabus (youngest son), Emilie, Sarah (inserted), J. Mott, Josephine, and John R. (oldest son). These are, at best, just speculations.

All photographs in this monograph are published by the courtesy of the St. Petersburg Museum of History.
Foreword

The John C. Williams family has been central to the development of St. Petersburg, Florida. The patriarch was a wealthy man when he came to the Pinellas Peninsula from Detroit, Michigan, around 1875. By 1879 he had acquired nearly 1600 acres of land in central Pinellas, including 500 acres that he platted in partnership with Peter Demens’s Orange Belt Railway to create the town of St. Petersburg. The park that bears his name was included in the original plat.

His four sons and three of his four daughters by his first marriage also migrated from Detroit to the Pinellas area. They became successful merchants and land developers in the embryonic town, and two sons were among the town’s first aldermen. Their sons, in turn, continued the block ice manufacturing, automobile sales and service, real estate, and merchandising enterprises founded by their fathers, and they continued public service, one as assistant postmaster, another with the city fire department, and another as city councilman. As with most families, the later generations gradually moved on to other places and activities.

The author began this project on the Williams family as a consequence of preparing catalogs for the photo-archives of the St. Petersburg Museum of History. Many old prints, particularly from the collection accumulated by the late John C. Blocker, an attorney and historian in St. Petersburg, bore short and nearly indecipherable notations on the back (sometimes even on the front) to identify the people in the photograph. Finding an “Alfred,” an “Albert,” and an “Arthur” Williams was an initial source of confusion, and several given names were passed down from “Sr.” to “Jr.” to “III.” To generate a useful photograph catalog called for a family chart of the Williams descendents living in Pinellas County. Since none seemed to exist, the project to compile the family history was undertaken.

The assistance of several living descendents and spouses of the John Williams clan is gratefully acknowledged. The genealogy would not have been complete without the help of Jeanne Neuling Williams Reeder, Donna Farmer Benjamin, Hope Farmer Williams, Judith Williams Lambdon, and John Alfred Williams. The cooperation of the St. Petersburg Museum of History in making available photographs from the museum collection and the encouragement of the Pinellas Genealogy Society is also acknowledged.
# Table of Contents

**Generation One** ................................................................. 1  
John Constantine Williams ........................................... 1

**Generation Two** ................................................................. 5  
John R. Williams .......................................................... 5  
Mary S. Williams ........................................................... 6  
John Constantine Williams, Jr ..................................... 8  
James Mott Williams ...................................................... 10  
Emilie E. C. Williams .................................................... 12  
Barnabus C. Williams ..................................................... 13

**Generation Three** ............................................................. 15  
Horace Williams ............................................................ 15  
John Arthur Williams .................................................... 17  
John Constantine Williams, III ..................................... 17  
Alfred Theodore Williams .......................................... 18  
Chester Lewis Williams .............................................. 18  
King Lewis Williams .................................................... 19  
James Mott Williams, Jr ............................................. 19  
Frances Fay Williams ................................................... 20  
Bessie D. Williams ....................................................... 20  
Grace Williams ........................................................... 22

**Generation Four** ................................................................. 22  
Horace Williams, Jr ...................................................... 22  
Joan C. Williams ........................................................ 24  
Judith Ann Williams .................................................... 24  
John Alfred Williams ................................................... 24  
Emilie Virginia Williams ............................................. 24  
Chester Lewis Williams, Jr ........................................... 25  
King Lewis Williams, Jr ............................................... 25  
Mary Hoyt Williams .................................................... 25  
Robert L. Prevatt ........................................................ 25  
Robert A. Harper ........................................................ 26

**Generation Five** ................................................................. 26  
Robert Weller Williams .............................................. 26  
John Alfred Williams, Jr ............................................. 26

**Sources Cited** ...................................................................... 33

**Index** .................................................................................. 33

**Photo Album** ................................................................. (following text)

**Descendency Chart** ............................................... (inserted at back cover)
Descendants of

JOHN CONSTANTINE WILLIAMS

Creator of St. Petersburg, Florida

Generation One

1. JOHN CONSTANTINE WILLIAMS was born on 25 Jan 1817 at Detroit, Michigan, one of seven sons of John R. Williams and Mary Mott. His father was the first elected mayor of Detroit and a founder of the Detroit Free Press. John C. married Charlotte Collins in 1846 at Detroit; they were divorced on 7 Nov 1881. He married Mrs. Sarah Craven Judge, on 29 Jul 1882 at Detroit. Sarah was born 18 Aug 1843, daughter of James and Isabella Stewart Craven. John C. Williams died on 25 Apr 1892 at St. Petersburg, at age 75. He was buried at Elmwood Cemetery, Detroit. Sarah died 15 Dec 1917, age 74, in Detroit and was also buried at Elmwood Cemetery.

John Williams first visited Florida in 1875, and he discovered the Pinellas peninsula when visiting James A. Cox in Clearwater. Here is an account of his earliest activities in the Pinellas area from a paper read to the St. Petersburg Historical Society in 1922. “...[on] March 4, 1876, two deeds were executed in Alabama from W.F. Sperlin to John C. Williams of Detroit. Each deed covered one of [the Hackney (425 acres) and Perry (230 acres) tracts bought from the state in 1872 and sold to Sperlin in 1874]. In March and April of [1876] General Williams received deeds from the State for the seven hundred and twelve acres adjoining his other purchase. He later bought about two hundred acres more, making his total purchases about sixteen hundred acres previous to 1879. About one-third of this amount was later included in the town site. ... In the winter of 1878 and 1879 General Williams shipped four horses, two wagons, farming tools and household goods to Gainesville. With him came Mrs. [Charlotte] Williams, their son Barney and two daughters. With the [freight] came his nephew Mr. F.W. Tilden, who helped General Williams survey his land ... and a Mr. Johnson, who was to be General Williams’ farm foreman. ... About forty acres had been cleared on the Hackney tract and General Williams planned to do some farming. He had the usual success which Northern farmers have when they try to raise crops in Florida. ...” That is, he gave up farming and shifted to real estate development.
While his father had been a captain in the War of 1812 and was later Adjutant General of the Michigan militia, John C. had no military service. He is first referred to as “Colonel” in the Tampa newspaper of 8 Mar 1879. He placed a notice in the Tampa newspaper regarding a note paid to Charlotte Williams on 15 Apr 1880 and disclaiming further obligation. He returned to Detroit and after his divorce from Charlotte and marriage to Sarah Craven Judge in 1882 he returned to Tampa. He is promoted to “General” in the Tampa newspaper of 4 Jul 1886. He built a home in the Hyde Park section of Tampa in Dec 1886, then moved to Big Bayou, Pinellas in 1887 to escape the yellow fever epidemic in Tampa.

The *Tampa Weekly* reports on 12 May 1887 that “Gen. J. C. Williams, accompanied by H. H. Kinyon, went to Pinellas on Tuesday [May 11]. Gen. Williams is the owner of Paul’s Landing, the proposed terminus of the Orange Belt R. R., and his visit there this week is to meet with Mr. Demens, general manager of the road.” Historian Karl Grismer takes up the story: “During January, 1887, Henry Sweetapple, treasurer of the Orange Belt Investment Co., entered negotiations with Williams regarding a townsite for his property. These negotiations were completed by Sweetapple on January 24 and provided that the Orange Belt would be given one-half interest in a town site of 500 acres when the railroad was completed and a wharf built to twelve feet of water.”

Again the Historical Society paper: “On January 29, 1887, General Williams and his wife [Sarah] signed a contract with the [Orange Belt] railroad [which] was to build to and through General Williams’ property and to build a dock out to twelve feet of water. In return General Williams was to plat a town of about five hundred acres and to convey a half interest to the railroad company. The road reached St. Petersburg in 1888 and wharf was built, the town was [surveyed by A.L. Hunt, chief engineer of the railroad, and] platted as agreed, the railroad joining with Mr. Williams in signing the plat. ... At the request of General Williams the depth of the water at the end of the dock was measured and it was found to be less than called for. General Williams refused to make a deed of a half interest to the railroad.”

This impasse was resolved early in 1889, according to Grismer. “A memorandum of January 20, 1889, made by R.C.M. Judge, stepson and clerk of Williams, read: ‘Mr. Demens is anxious to get the lands divided ...’ The division was finally made February 28, 1889, a few days after the pier was completed.
Up until that time neither Williams nor Demens could sell any of their holdings without the other's consent. As a result, only two lots were sold, one to Hector McLeod and the other to J.C. Williams, Jr.16

A Tampa newspaper report in Jan 1889 adds some color to Gen. Williams's personality:17 “NOTES FROM THE SUB-PENINSULA: John C. Williams, Sr., the present life and soul of [Pinellas] Point, put in an appearance a few days ago, and has been quite busy since feeding the hungry and employing the idle. Lest it were my business I could not tell you the half of the grand achievements, the broad views, the liberal policy and the boundless faith of this ex-'cussed,' but now lauded old gentleman. His money flows like water, his charity, generosity and patriotism is limited only by his means.” He obviously had a good publicity agent at the age of 72.

Gen. Williams is listed in the Hillsborough Voting District 6, Poll Tax Roll (p408) in 1890. He and Sarah built a large home on Fourth Street South in St. Petersburg in 1891. This grand mansion later became the Manhattan hotel, and in 1996 the house was moved to the USF campus on Second Street South where it was restored and stands today as a museum.

In developing the town of St. Petersburg after the railroad was extended, “Both Williams and the [Orange Belt] investment company offered lots for sale on liberal terms, allowing purchasers nine years to pay for them. The only restrictions regarding the use of the lots were that all buildings must be erected on brick or stone piers and be painted. Williams insisted particularly on the paint. ‘Unpainted buildings make a town look as though it’s going to the dogs.’ he asserted.”18 He also built the Detroit hotel at a personal cost of $20,000 ($400,000 today) and afterward exchanged it with the railroad company for the land he had given them.19

Gen. Williams left a will, dated 29 Apr 1891, in which he disinherited his eight children from his marriage with Charlotte.20 (He and Sarah had no children though she had had five children in her first marriage.) As recounted in the South Florida Home newspaper just after his death: “The last will and testament of Gen. John C. Williams, who died at his home in St. Petersburg two weeks ago was filed in the county judge's office by the legal representatives of the widow this morning [20 May 1892], and it was asked to be admitted to probate. The will leaves everything that the testator died possessed of to the widow, with the
exception of one lot in the town of St. Petersburg, which is given to the town. The will closes with a paragraph to this effect, ‘As my children have not loved or cared for me as I think they should have, I do not desire that they should enjoy any of my property.’ The heirs ... gave notice that they will contest the will. Among the other grounds on which they set up their contest is the allegation that the lady who has lived with Gen. Williams for the past eight or ten years and to whom all the property was bequeathed was not his legal wife and consequently is not his widow.”21

This was a landmark case for the next two years. “For several years lawyers have been arduously at work trying to effect an adjustment in the famous Williams will case, a suit that has been in litigation since 1892 and in which $150,000 was involved. In the year 1892 General Williams died and willed all of his property to his wife, Sarah Williams, before General Williams death however, he also conveyed to his wife about $30,000 worth of property. After his death his children by his first wife, eight in number, employed able counsel and began proceedings to brake [sic] the will, claiming that their father was in a demented state and that their stepmother, Sarah Williams, used undue influence that caused him to make the will. The case has been strongly contested since 1892 and was finally settled in the probate court of this county Tuesday [20 Mar 1894] by a compromise, in which Mrs. Williams was allowed to keep the property made to her before her husband’s death which amounts to $30,000 and a one third interest in the balance, $150,000, the remainder to be divided among the eight children and used in defraying the expenses of the litigation. The case ... is perhaps the largest that has ever been in litigation in Florida.”22

In settlement, an agreement dated 4 Aug 1894 was recorded in the Hillsborough County Court between Sarah Williams, First Party, and John C. Williams, Jr, Cornelia Mott Morse, James M[ott] Williams, Emilie E.C. Rowland, Mary S. Fisher, Josephine Wagner Williams, Barnabus C. Williams, and Jessie Harris, formerly Jessie Williams, named in this agreement to designate a trustee for John R. Williams, Nellie Williams and Blanche Williams, his children.23 Under this agreement $5000 was paid to Charlotte as alimony; of the balance of the estate, one-third went to Sarah and the remaining two-thirds was divided equally among the eight children. The estate was appraised at $160,000,24 which is about three million in 2003 dollars.
Children of John Constantine Williams and Charlotte Collins all born at Detroit,25 were:*

i. CORNELIA MOTT WILLIAMS; born 22 Sep 1844 (1848 in 1870 census); married Rollin Jacob Morse before 1893 at Detroit;26 died 6 Mar 1936,27 at age 91, and was buried at Royal Palm Cemetery.

Cornelia was not in the 1900 census. She had a home in St. Petersburg in 1901, but she was either divorced or widowed at that time since the F.A. Davis 1901 prospectus references the residence of “Mrs. C.M. Williams.”28 She is listed in the 1910 city directory at 402 E Oak Av, Tampa, as “widow Rollin.” She appeared on the 1910 census at Tampa as head of household, widow, 3 children, 2 living, keeps lodging house. We have no information about her children. She appeared on the 1920 census at Zephyrhills, Pasco County (head of household, living alone). She lived at Tampa in 1927.29 She was not found in the 1930 census. Her death certificate information from Mrs. J. Mott Williams gives her deceased husband’s name as Jacob Morse.

2. ii. JOHN R. WILLIAMS; born 1849; married Jessie _____.

3. iii. MARY S. WILLIAMS; born Feb 1852; married Albert Fisher.

4. iv. JOHN CONSTANTINE WILLIAMS, JR.; born Mar 1858; married (1) Nettie Cox, (2) Mary F. _____.

5. v. JAMES MOTT WILLIAMS; born Apr 1860; married (1) Frances Blanche Lewis, (2) Mary Alice DeBruler.


7. vii. BARNABUS C. (Barney) WILLIAMS; born Mar 1864; married (1) Elizabeth Checkine, (2) Elizabeth _____ Finnegan.

viii. JOSEPHINE WAGNER WILLIAMS; born 1868; married _____ Bain.30

There were no children of John Constantine Williams and Sarah Craven.

Generation Two

2. JOHN R. WILLIAMS(John)** (Grismer gives this name as John M.) was born in 1849 at Detroit.31 He married Jessie (maiden name not known) before 1878 at

*In keeping with the format defined by the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, children are numbered in order of birth with lower case Roman numerals and are assigned a reference number in Arabic numerals if expanded in later generations.

**Direct ancestors are given in parentheses with the generation number superscript.
Detroit. Jessie was born in Michigan in 1858 and died 13 Apr 1933 in Winnipeg, Canada. She is buried at Oxbow, Saskatchewan.

John appeared on the 1880 census, living in Point Pinellas, Hillsborough County as head of household with wife Jessie and daughter Nellie.

Two newspaper notices in 1881 may or may not be our subject: “J. R. Williams has rented the Hayden building near the ferry at Tampa and is to open a new grocery business.” “New grocery store. Foot of Jackson Street, at the Ferry. J. R. Williams, dealer in Groceries and Provision, Flour, Grain, Salt Meats &C. ...” The Sunland Tribune of 31 Aug 1882 has this article: “ATTEMPTED MURDER—Last Thursday night about 10 o’clock Hodge, Judge[?] and Robert Hodge were fired at by Mr. John R. Williams while the former were driving by the latter’s gate ... All the parties are recent settlers on Point Pinellas from Detroit, Michigan. As a result of Mr. Williams shot, Mr. Hodge was shot through the left forearm and the mule[?] to the vehicle wounded. Mr Williams was arrested and brought to Tampa Monday night.” [The only available microfilm copy of this newspaper article is nearly illegible.] As a result of his arrest, John was declared insane and sent to the asylum at Chattahootchee in Oct 1882. A trustee was appointed for his and his children’s legacy under his father’s will agreement on 4 Aug 1894, indicating that he was still institutionalized and was divorced from Jessie at that time. (See earlier excerpt from the will settlement.) We have no further record of John R. Williams at Chattahootchee.

Children of John R. Williams and Jessie were:

i. NELLIE M. WILLIAMS; born 1878 in Florida; died 17 Apr 1956; buried at Oxbow, Saskatchewan, Canada. She is included in the 1880 census at Point Pinellas.

ii. BLANCHE WILLIAMS; born 1881 at Pinellas Point, FL; died 1895; buried at Oxbow, Saskatchewan, Canada. She is named in the will agreement of 1894.

3. MARY S. WILLIAMS (John) was born in Feb 1852 at Detroit. She married Albert Fisher in 1875 at Detroit (married 25 yrs at 1900 census). This marriage was dissolved by Chancery Court on 6 Jun 1903 at Detroit. She died on 26 Dec 1929 at St. Petersburg, at age 77. She lived at 401 Second Street S, at the time of her death. She was buried at Royal Palm South Cemetery in St. Petersburg.
According to her obituary in *The Evening Independent*: “Mrs. Fisher came here Jan. 1, 1900, several years after her father... She arrived on a beautiful, bright and warm New Year’s day and for the next 90 days the sun shone every day. She fell in love with the city her father had established and ever since then had been a strong enthusiast for this city, her faith in its future never faltering for a moment. Mrs. Fisher was one of the organizers of the Women’s Town Improvement Association [in 1901]... Mrs. Fisher was like her father, a real executive, and her mind was clear and her decisions accurate and positive up to a short time before her death. She was active for many years in civic and church affairs here.”

She appeared on the 1900 census living with her sister Emilie Williams Rowland. She appeared on the 1910 census as head of household, a widow, residing on Lakeview Avenue. “A woman of extraordinary force of character and executive ability, and always an unflagging believer in St. Petersburg and its future, Mrs. Fisher during that pioneering stage was an outstanding factor in all lines of its development. She was among the first to erect residences of the better class in that day, and all her properties were improved from the first along the best lines. ... She was an active member for many years of the Congregational Church.”

Children of Mary S. Williams and Albert Fisher were:

i. Allan Williams Fisher; born 1875 at Detroit; died 3 Jul 1967 at St. Petersburg; buried at Royal Palm South. In the 1880 Michigan census, he is listed as Albert Fischer, Jr.

“After early years as a general supply salesman in Detroit and a chocolate salesman in New York, Mr. Fisher came to St. Petersburg in 1904 and formed a real estate and insurance firm with James G. Foley... At their Central Avenue office, Foley & Fisher had the first outdoor electric sign in the city, and Mr. Fisher owned the third automobile brought to St. Petersburg.” He participated in the “Great Endurance Contest” automobile run from Tampa to Jacksonville in 1909. He appeared on the 1910 census with his mother.

ii. Clara L. Fisher; born Dec 1879 at MI; died before 1967(?).

She appeared on the 1900 census with her aunt Emilie Rowland and on the 1910 census with her mother. She is not listed as surviving her brother Allan at the time of his death in 1967.
4. **JOHN CONSTANTINE WILLIAMS, JR.** (*John*), nicknamed “Tine,” was born either in 1854 or Mar 1858 at Detroit. He married Nettie Cox, second daughter of James A. and Harriett Cox, on 25 Jun 1881 at Point Pinellas, FL. Nettie was born in Tennessee in 1864. John and Nettie were divorced between 1908 and 1910 (Nettie is listed as married in the 1908 city directory, divorced in the 1910 census.) John married Mary F. (maiden name not known) within the year of the 1910 census. He died on 27 Feb 1927 at Tampa at age 68. Nettie married Archie Scott around 1920. She died 4 Dec 1924 and is buried in Royal Palm Cemetery South. John’s resting place has not been determined.

John appeared on the 1880 census at Point Pinellas, FL as head of household with his brother Barney. John Bethell’s account of early Pinellas history runs: “Soon after their father, the General, came three stalwart sons, B.C., John R. and J.C. Williams, Jr. Barney and John came first, and were for a time identified with the interests of their father. ‘Tine,’ as the other was familiarly known, became a common carrier, plying between Pinellas and Tampa with passengers, freight and the U.S. mail. Old timers will remember with what regularity the sharpie ‘Nettie’ used to make the trip to and fro regardless of weather. While St. Petersburg was still in its infancy, he gave up boating and bought a lot on Central Avenue, [southwest] corner of Second Street, on which he erected a fine large building, still known as the ‘Williams Block,’ for residence and business purposes. He was the first to embark in mercantile business in St. Petersburg proper, and for a time had a monopoly of the trade.” The Williams Block building stood for eighty years, until 1969, when it was razed to make way, eventually, for the Barnett Bank tower (now Bank of America).

*The Tampa Guardian* reported in May 1886 that “Pinellas gets her mail twice a week. Mr. J. C. Williams, Jr., is the carrier, and is a faithful servant of the public. He knows just how to manage a sail boat.” According to Grismer, Tine Williams purchased the second lot sold by his father in St. Petersburg town in 1888 and opened a general store there in 1889. Five years later, in 1894, the newspaper wrote that “Mr. J. C. Williams, who started the first mercantile establishment here, ... [has sales] which range from thirty-six to forty thousand dollars a year. He conducts a general store, ... and he sells goods at metropolitan prices.” That reported annual income is about $750,000 in today’s dollars. In 1892 “Tine” and his younger brother Barney organized the Crystal Ice Works, which became a major industry in the city.
J.C. Williams, Jr. opposed his father in the first town election, held in 1892 just after the citizens voted to incorporate. He was elected alderman on the Anti-Saloon ticket headed by David Moffett, who defeated Gen. Williams for the office of mayor by a count of 21 to 10. Aldermen during the period while St. Petersburg was a town, from 1892 to 1903, included J.C. Williams, Jr., 1892-93, 1899-1900, and B.C. Williams, 1898-1901.

John C. Jr. appeared on the 1900 census residing on Sixth [Central] Avenue. There is a cartoon in a 1901 edition of the *St. Petersburg Daily Times* titled “Among Our Well-Known People” and with the caption: “Mr. J.C. Williams is known over a large section of the state in connection with a lot of big enterprises and interests, but nowhere does he look any bigger than when plowing the briny deep aboard his staunch auxiliary schooner the ‘Mermaid’.”

He was proprietor of Williams-Morehouse wholesale grocery company in 1901 in Tampa. The last appearance of an advertisement for J. C. Williams Store in *The St. Petersburg Times* was in Sep 1906. Prior to that date the store had placed a front page advertisement in nearly every issue. Williams evidently closed this business about then and relocated to Tampa. As John Bethell relates it: “For quite a long time he controlled probably three-fifths of all the trade of the West Coast, but close attention to business and indoor confinement, and the years of toil and struggle so undermined his health that he thought it advisable to embark in less strenuous enterprises and exacting less personal confinement, and finally closed out.”

He was still listed as proprietor of the Crystal Ice Works, residence at 200 Central Avenue (the store), in the 1908 St. Petersburg city directory. He was listed as proprietor of Williams Pharmacy, 1116 Franklin St. in the 1910 Tampa directory. He appeared on the 1910 census as head of household residing at 3010 Florida Avenue, Tampa and married Mary F. (maiden name not known) within the year of the 1910 census. He lived at 501 Warren Av, Tampa, at the time of his death in 1927.

Children of John Constantine Williams, Jr. and Nettie Cox, all born at St. Petersburg, were:

i. ALBERT WILLIAMS; born 18 Oct 1883; married Lela Andrews after 1910 (the 1910 city directory does not list a spouse); died 11 Mar 1959 at Tampa, at age 75. Lela was born 4 Jul 1886,
daughter of Mitchell and Lura Davis Andrews, and died 12 Sep 1963 at age 77. Both were buried at Royal Palm South.

Albert appeared on the 1900 census in the household of J. C. Williams, Jr. and on the 1910 census in the household of Nettie Cox. He lived at 908 Tampa Av, Tampa, in 1910, employed as a clerk in Williams Pharmacy. He was listed as Druggist in the 1920 Tampa city directory. He appeared on the 1920 census at Tampa as head of household, 1812 Osceola St. Residence at time of death was 1902 W. Cluster, Tampa.

8. ii. HORACE WILLIAMS; born 9 Feb 1884; married Ida Louise Weller.

9. iii. JOHN ARTHUR WILLIAMS; born 11 Dec 1888.

iv. JACK WILLIAMS; born 9 Oct 1891; married Beth F. _____ in 1918; died 16 Nov 1931 at New Orleans at age 40; buried at Royal Palm South. Beth survived Jack in 1931, but no surviving children are listed in his obituary.

Jack is listed as John C. on the 1900 census in the household of J. C. Williams, Jr. He appeared on the 1910 census in the household of Nettie Cox. He lived at Tampa at the time of his father’s death in 1927. He appeared on the 1930 census at Beaumont, Jefferson County, TX.

“[Mr. Williams] resided in Tampa after leaving here and the past two years has been in New Orleans. Surviving are his widow, of this city, and six brothers, Albert Williams, Horace Williams of this city, Arthur Williams, Marietta, Ga., Charlie Williams, Johnnie Williams and Teddie Williams all of this city. Charlie Williams [is] in San Antonio, Texas, to attend the ice convention...”

v. CHARLES M. WILLIAMS; born 13 Nov 1898; (grave marker is inscribed 1899-1934 and the 1920 census gives birth year as 1901.); died 2 Apr 1935 at Lincoln, NB, at age 36; buried at Royal Palm South.

He appeared on the 1900 census in the household of J. C. Williams, Jr. He appeared on the 1910 and 1920 census in the household of Nettie Cox. He was not found in the 1930 census.

10. vi. JOHN CONSTANTINE WILLIAMS, III; born 1901; married (1) Gladys S. Bell; (2) Dora A. Brown.

11. vii. ALFRED THEODORE WILLIAMS; born 2 Oct 1907; married Adelia Brooks.

There were no children of John Constantine Williams, Jr. and Mary F.

5. JAMES MOTT WILLIAMS (John) was born in Apr 1860 at Detroit. He married Frances Blanche Lewis in 1884 at Detroit. He married Mary Alice DeBruler in
1929 at St. Petersburg.\textsuperscript{82} He died on 6 Jul 1937 at St. Petersburg, at age 77.\textsuperscript{83} Frances was born 29 Apr 1860 at Detroit and died 7 Dec 1927, at age 67.\textsuperscript{84} Mary Alice was born in Indiana in 1868 and died 28 Dec 1957, at age 89.\textsuperscript{85} All were buried at Royal Palm South.

John Bethell writes: “J. Mott Williams ... inherited his full share of the family energy and enterprise, and never could keep still.”\textsuperscript{86} According to his obituary, “Capt. Williams ... did not make his permanent home here until about 1900. [He] visited with his father here shortly after the turn of 1890, living for a short time in the Big Bayou section. During the following years he again visited in the young city, and for a while engaged in the cigar manufacturing business in Tampa. During the Spanish-American War he was connected with the quartermasters office in Tampa. In 1900 he moved here with his family to make his permanent home. He entered the real estate business, being in charge of much property left him by his father. He owned several entire blocks.”\textsuperscript{87}

Mott appeared on the 1900 census as head of household on Fifth Avenue [First Avenue North] and on the 1910 census at 126 First Avenue North. He owned a machine shop and one of the town's first garages.\textsuperscript{88} He established the Williams Garage at 3d St. & 3d Avenue S. in 1913. He appeared on the 1920 census as head of household residing 3d Street S. He appeared on the 1930 census at 325 2d Avenue S.

“The Rambler recalls the early days here when Mr. Williams owned the 'Rosebud,' a large power boat used for fishing excursions or outings enjoyed by large groups. ... In the early days here, Mr. Williams was one of the best known citizens. He was outwardly gruff but inwardly had a very large heart... He was always a 'square shooter' with everybody. When you had business with Mr. Williams you could be perfectly certain of getting fair play and full value for your money. ... Mr. Williams believed in personal liberty, the right to live one’s life according to one’s own ideas so long as it did not interfere with others. He was the first St. Petersburg man to contend in favor of Sunday theater operation. He was not in the theater business but he believed that the people who wanted to go to picture shows Sundays should have the chance. So, to make a test of the law, he leased the old Rex theater for one day, Sunday, and operated it. He was arrested but the following Sunday again he ran the theater and again was arrested. He finally lost his argument with the city authorities over Sunday
shows and the theaters remained closed until an election was held, many years later.”89

The Independent printed a 1968 feature story under the eye-catching headline “J. MOTT AND HIS GREAT BIG FIB.” This is an account of the appearance of Haley’s comet in 1908. The populace was apprehensive about this phenomenon, and when a child asked Mr. Williams, “Will we burn up if that comet hits us?” he calmed them with this assurance: “Have no fear. Soon’s we get the word we’ll all get aboard ‘Rose Bud’ [his excursion boat] and we’ll go way out in the middle of Tampa Bay where we’ll be safe with all that water around us.”90

Karl Grismer writes that Mott Williams was “the first person arrested for speeding in St. Petersburg ... He had been warned several times before ... so he was fined $100”91 That is about $2000 in today’s money!

Children of James Mott Williams and Frances Blanche Lewis were:92

12. i. CHESTER LEWIS WILLIAMS; born May 1886 at Butler, IN; married Paula Ramm.

13. ii. KING LEWIS WILLIAMS; born 15 Mar 1890 at Butler, IN; married (1) Beatrice M. Trout; (2) Jennie Jordan.

14. iii. JAMES MOTT WILLIAMS, JR.; born 26 Nov 1892 at Toledo, OH; married Dora Elsie Millard.

15. iv. FRANCES FAY WILLIAMS; born 7 Sep 1894 at Detroit; married Call Prevatt.

There were no children of James Mott Williams and Mary Alice DeBruler.

6. EMILIE E. C. (Emma) WILLIAMS (John) was born 29 July 1862 at Detroit.93 She married Eugene B. Rowland in 1886 at Detroit.94 Rowland died in 1913,95 and she married Henry N. Schirp, born 1 Dec 1863 son of Henry and Mary Knoelpier Schirp,96 at St. Petersburg. Emilie died 19 Dec 1943 at age 81. Henry Schirp died 19 Mar 1940,97 at age 76, in Tampa and was buried in Orange Hill Cemetery. His death certificate records he was married to Emilie at the time of his death.

The Tampa newspaper reported in 1879 that “Col. J.C. Williams and daughter, Emma Williams, left Point Pinellas ... to visit their home in Detroit Michigan.”98 She appeared in the 1880 census in the household of Albert and Mary Fisher, her sister, in Detroit. She appeared on the 1900 census as head of household at 5th Avenue [First Avenue N], St. Petersburg, with her daughter, her sister Mary Fisher, and niece Clara Fisher. She appeared on the 1910 census as head of
household and a widow (but note Rowland lived to 1913). She appeared on the 1920 census in the household of Henry N. Schirp. They were residents of Gulfport in the late 1930s.99

E.B. Rowland, Emilie’s first husband, was a prominent St. Petersburg real estate broker. “Mr. Rowland was one of the pioneer business men of the Sunshine City, having located here between twelve and thirteen years ago [about 1900] when he came from Detroit, Mich. ... He was engaged in the real estate business and his name is closely identified with the progress of St. Petersburg. ... [After his death] little could be gained of his life history as he was reserved in talking of himself and no relatives who survived him would give any information.”100 A typical newspaper advertisement of the early 1900s reads: “I have a fine list of property ... that will appeal to the man of judgement and discrimination. Come and see me. E.B. Rowland...”101

Children of Emilie E. C. Williams and Eugene B. Rowland were:

i. **Hazel E. Rowland**; born Jul 1888 at MI.102

She appeared on the 1900 and 1910 census with her mother. She is listed in the 1915-16 city directories as a music teacher.103 She was not found in the 1920 census.

There were no children of Emilie and Henry N. Schirp.

7. **Barnabus C. (Barney) Williams (John)** was born in Mar 1864 at Detroit. He married Elizabeth (Lizzie) Checkine on 15 Sep 1886 at Point Pinellas, FL.104 He married Mrs. Elizabeth Finnegan in 1907 at St. Petersburg.105 (Her maiden name is not known.) He died on 18 Apr 1930 at St. Petersburg, at age 66 (living at 725 Grove St).106 He was buried at Royal Palm South.

John Bethell records: “George R. Johnson came from Detroit with General Williams in 1876 to look the country over and decided to settle. In the following year he returned to the Point [Pinellas] accompanied by Barney Williams.”107 (This may be the same Mr. Johnson identified in the Historical Society paper cited earlier.)

Barney appeared on the 1880 Hillsborough County census living with his brother John C. Jr. Quoting again from John Bethell: “B.C. Williams, also an enterprising business man of St. Petersburg, after a year or more with his father, went to work on his own account. His first move was in the fishing business, but there being so little money in it in those years, he gave it up to
engage in boating, .. carrying freight and passengers [between Pinellas and Tampa]. ... Then he engaged in steamboating. In these years he also became a skillful boat builder, ... As mechanic or boatman he has but few equals.”

“The smallest boat [built at Big Bayou] ... was eight feet six inches long, and Captain B.C. Williams, then a young man, rowed it from the Bayou to Tampa on a direct line to Gadsden’s Point, and from there to the shipping off Big Island, where he stopped to take a short rest. It was one of the boldest, most daring and dangerous feats ever performed by any boatman that ever crossed the bay.”

Barney was an alderman of St. Petersburg town in 1898-1901 and City Councilman in 1904-05. He appeared on the 1900 census residing Second St. He built a fishing clubhouse at Point Pinellas in 1907, which was apparently a private get-away club for prominent St. Petersburg gentry. In addition to being a boatbuilder and mechanic, he was involved with his brothers in the Crystal Ice Works and the Williams Garage, and he must have had many other activities around the city. A cartoon in the 1901 Times showing Barney bent over behind a surveyor’s transit (telescope) bears the caption: “This is a sort of rear elevation view, but anyone can see that is the only view that will cover the entire situation when the subjects are engaged in this particular occupation. Ice king, land baron and municipal lawmaker, history will record as Mr. B.C. Williams’ most conspicuous public work the establishment of the St. Petersburg street grades—in which occupation our sketchist portrays him.”

The 1910 census indicates a second marriage to Mrs. Elizabeth Finnegan around 1907. She had a daughter named Daisy. He appeared on the 1920 census as head of household at Third Avenue S.

A newspaper account in 1988 relates that “There was another plan for the waterfront [of St. Petersburg], one Barney Williams originated. A versatile and colorful man who served two terms on the Town Council, Williams wanted the waterfront developed for commerce and shipping. ... [He] had derived most of his livelihood from the water as mate on coastal steamers, boat builder, owner of oyster beds and even deputy shellfish commissioner. So vehement was he about his idea that he drew up a waterfront plan and named the development ‘Harbor Front’ [which is exactly where Demens Landing is today]. ...”

“So much did [Barney] invest in his ventures that he left little in his estate save his Harley-Davidson motorcycle, which he used to get from St. Petersburg to
Tarpon Springs for his boat repair business.”114 (See later text at Bessie Williams Harper for more on this family.)

Children of Barnabus C. Williams and Elizabeth Checkine were:115

i. DOROTHY D. WILLIAMS; born Oct 1890; died before 1936.
   She appeared on the 1900 census with her father but is not listed in the 1910 census or a 1936 news article about the family. (See later text under Chester Williams.)

ii. BARNABUS C WILLIAMS, JR; born May 1893; died before 1936.
   He appeared on the 1900 and 1910 census with his father but is not listed as living in the 1936 news article.

16. iii. BESSIE D. WILLIAMS; born Nov 1894 in Florida; married Maxie Harper.

iv. DAVID S. WILLIAMS; born Jun 1899 in Florida.
   He appeared on the 1900 census with his father but is not listed in the 1910 census. He is reported as living in the 1936 news article.

17. v. GRACE WILLIAMS; born 2 Jun 1901; married _____ Hargraves.
   The Bussey funeral records indicate another child that died as an infant of 7 months.116

There were no children of Barnabus C. Williams and Elizabeth Finnegan.

Generation Three

8. HORACE WILLIAMS (John2, John1) was born on 9 Feb 1884 at St. Petersburg.117 (The 1900 census gives his birth date as Feb 1885.) He married Ida Louise Weller, daughter of Albert P. and Isabelle Weller, on 1 May 1907 at St. Petersburg. He died on 28 Apr 1943 at St. Petersburg, at age 59.118 Ida was born around 1885 at Philadelphia and died 30 Oct 1954 in St. Petersburg.119 Both were buried at Royal Palm South.

Horace Williams appeared on the 1900 census in the household of J. C. Williams, Jr. He attended the St. Petersburg public schools and the University of Florida. After college he started working for the Crystal Ice Works, then owned by his father. He became manager of the Crystal Ice Works plant in 1909 and retained that position when the company was reorganized as the Citizens Ice & Cold Storage Company around 1912.120
During the First World War, Horace, Sr., served as captain of Company I, Fifty-sixth Infantry, Seventh Division, for twenty-one months, including ten months in France where he was wounded. After the war he returned to his former job and then founded the Williams-Beers Ice Company in 1920. He was president of this firm when he died in 1943.

Here is a typical newspaper advertisement from the summer of 1914: “THE ICE CHEST IS THE POWER IN YOUR HOME NOW. ... The happiness and harmony of your home turns upon whether the supply of ice in that chest is scant or sufficient for all purposes. ... Never let the ice run too low and the machinery of your home will always run smoothly. ... CITIZENS ICE & COLD STORAGE CO., Horace Williams, Mgr.” Block ice manufacture was a major business as late as the 1930s, before electric home refrigerators became widely used, and Citizens Ice had two plants in St. Petersburg on the south side near the railroad.

“In November, 1909, 16 automobiles made history in a pioneering run from Tampa to Jacksonville ... and return ... covering 534 miles. ... The trip required four days. ... Horace Williams ... copped the silver loving cup, offered the most enduring car and driver making the race. Frank Wood ... took along Will Ramm, garage man, to repair his car, if need be, and a good thing too. Wood hit a stump on the East Coast pitching himself and wife from the car. It also bent an axle. They built a fire under the offending part, straightened it and went on. ... Horace Williams took along his wife and mother. There were no roads [from St. Petersburg] to Tampa in those days. Williams drove an Everett, Metzger, Flanders, or EMF as it was popularly known. ... One endurance driver was arrested for speeding in Jacksonville. The speed limit was six m.p.h."  

“Mr. Williams and his wife were among the motorists taking a pathfinders’ trip to Brooksville in 1910. Roads from St. Petersburg to Tarpon Springs were described as ‘awful’ and beyond Tarpon Springs as ‘fair.’”  

He appeared on the 1920 census as head of household at 336 Ninth Avenue NE. He appeared on the 1930 census at 1896 North Shore Drive, where he lived until his death in 1943.

Ida Weller was a “Native of Philadelphia, Pa., [who] moved to Tarpon Springs with her family at the age of five years. The family moved to St. Petersburg in 1895 and her late father, A.P. Weller, was the first manager of the St. Petersburg Light Co., now the Florida Power Corp. ... Prominent in civic work, Mrs. Williams
was a past president of the local Young Women’s Christian Association board of directors and at one time was a member of the YWCA’s national board. She also was for years a director of the local Community Chest ... and was a member of the First Congregational Church.”

Children of Horace Williams and Ida Louise Weller were:

18. i. HORACE WILLIAMS, JR.; born 3 May 1916 at St. Petersburg; married Mary Jeanne Neuling.

9. JOHN ARTHUR WILLIAMS (John², John¹) was born on 11 Dec 1888 at St. Petersburg (Dec 1886, according to the 1900 census). He died on 5 Mar 1937 at Marietta, GA, at age 48. We have no information about his wife.

He was usually known as Arthur. He appeared on the 1900 census in the household of J. C. Williams, Jr. and on the 1910 census in the household of Nettie Cox. He lived at Marietta, GA, at the time of his father’s death in 1927.

Children of John Arthur Williams:

i. JIMMY WILLIAMS; born circa 1915; died circa 1930.

10. JOHN CONSTANTINE WILLIAMS, III (John², John¹) was born in 1901 at St. Petersburg (1903 is given in the 1920 census). He married Gladys S. Bell on 15 Mar 1930 at St. Petersburg. Gladys was born 14 Oct 1911, in Manchester, CN, daughter of Robert and Maria Cordner Bell, and died 16 Aug 1955. John married Dora A. Young Brown on 29 Sep 1956 at St. Petersburg. He died 12 Dec 1971 at Arlington, TX, at age 70. Dora was born 25 Mar 1913, daughter of Louis and Phoebe Hood Young, and died 11 Mar 1971. All were buried at Royal Palm South.

Jack is listed as John C. in the 1900 census. John C. III appeared on the census of 1910 and 1920 in the household of Nettie Cox. He was employed by the City of St. Petersburg Gas Department and was General Manager of Webb’s City between 1963 and 1971. He was a member of the Northeast Park Baptist Church, St. Petersburg Masonic Lodge, past president of the Pioneer School Children Assn., and a member of the Pinellas County Historical Commission.

Children of John Constantine Williams, III and Gladys S. Bell were:

19. i. JOAN C. WILLIAMS; married (1) Edward Goodrich Acheson, IV; (2) Edward C. Fields; (3) William Hampton.

There is no record of children of John C. Williams III and Dora A. Brown.
11. Alfred Theodore (Ted) Williams (John2, John1) was born on 2 Oct 1907 at St. Petersburg. He married Adelia Brooks on 19 Sep 1933 at St. Petersburg. He died on 10 Feb 1972 at St. Petersburg, at age 64. He was buried at Royal Palm South, St. Petersburg. Adelia was born 14 Sep 1919, daughter of Charles Eugene and Grace Farr Brooks, died 24 Aug 1975, and was also buried at Royal Palm South.

Ted appeared on the 1910 and 1920 census in the household of Nettie Cox. He was Manager of the Coffee Department and a member of the board of directors of Webb’s City. He was a member of the Allendale United Methodist Church, a Gold Star Pioneer and a veteran of World War II. He lived at 1901 24th Avenue N at the time of his death.

Children of Alfred Theodore Williams and Adelia Brooks, both born at St. Petersburg, were:


21. ii. John Alfred Williams; born 29 Jun 1947; married (1) Patricia O’Hara; (2) Donna Ellett; (3) Dianne Burdick.

12. Chester Lewis Williams (James2, John1) was born 6 May 1886 in Butler, IN. He married Paula Ramm, daughter of Frederick W. and Ida L. Ramm, in 1910 at St. Petersburg. He died 5 Sep 1949 at St. Petersburg, age 63. Paula was born in Essen, Germany, and died 21 Jun 1982 in Cashiers, NC. Both were buried at Greenwood Cemetery.

Chester appeared on the census of 1900 and 1910 in the household of his father. He began as a mail carrier and rose to be Assistant Superintendent of Mails, in charge of Station A. He participated at the inauguration of air mail service to the city at Piper-Fuller flying field in 1929. He was a member of the Post Office baseball team and managed the Post Office orchestra for many years. He appeared on the 1930 census as head of household at 206 18th Avenue S.

The later generation Williams’s talents and civic activities are indicated in a pair of news articles in 1936. In January that year, the Princess Hirrihigua Chapter of the DAR dedicated a memorial marker to General John C. Williams on Fourth Street in Williams Park. Family members attending in the ceremony were Chester L., Horace, King L., Bessie Harper, Fay Prevatt and their children. Later the same year there was a program in the park to honor the family, several of whom participated, “including Louis [sic] Williams, accordian player; Mrs. Mott
Williams, pianist; King L. Williams, musician, and Chester Williams, manager of the post office band which played an hour’s concert ... and selections by the Hawaiian Four composed of Edna and Betty Rhodes, Elsie Gregory and King L. Williams, Jr.”

“Paula Ramm came from Germany to St. Petersburg with her parents and two brothers in the 1890’s. At her death in 1982, she was the last remaining Charter Member of Trinity Lutheran Church, which was organized in 1911.” Ramm’s Garage was a long-time business in St. Petersburg.

Children of Chester Lewis Williams and Paula Ramm both born at St. Petersburg, were:

22. i. EMILIE VIRGINIA WILLIAMS; born 1916; married Marcus Robinson Bishop.

23. ii. CHESTER LEWIS WILLIAMS, JR.; born 1924; married Hope Leslie Farmer.

13. KING LEWIS WILLIAMS (James², John¹) was born on 15 Mar 1890 at Butler, IN. He married Beatrice M. Trout on 9 Apr 1914 at St. Petersburg. He and Beatrice were divorced before the 1920 census listing. He married Jennie Jordan, daughter of Annie J. Jordan, in 1922 at St. Petersburg. He died on 9 Jun 1967 at Sarasota, FL, at age 77. Jennie was born 8 Feb 1901 and died 26 Oct 1967. Both were buried at Royal Palm South.

“Mr. Williams came to St. Petersburg with his [father’s] family in 1891. He and his brother, the late J. Mott Williams, Jr., for many years operated Williams Garage [at Second Avenue and Fourth Street S.]. He also was with the St. Petersburg Fire Department for 20 years, retiring in 1950 as a captain. Mr. Williams, a veteran of World War I, moved to Long Boat Key [around 1956].”

He appeared on the 1900, 1910, and 1920 in the household of J. Mott Williams. He appeared on the 1930 census as head of household at 1112 James Avenue S.

Children of King Lewis Williams and Jennie Jordan were:

24. i. KING LEWIS WILLIAMS, JR.; born 1924 at St. Petersburg.

14. JAMES MOTT WILLIAMS, JR. (James², John¹) was born on 26 Nov 1892 at Toledo, OH. He married Dora Elsie Millard in 1917 at St. Petersburg. He died on 27 Nov 1954 at St. Petersburg, at age 62. Dora Elsie was born 18 Aug 1895,
in Belding, MI, daughter of Louis C. and Nellie Hoyt Millard, and died 8 Jul 1990 at the age of 95. Both were buried at Royal Palm South.\textsuperscript{157}

Mott Jr. appeared on the census of 1900 and 1910 in the household of his parents. He was associated with his father in operating the Williams Garage. He served in the infantry during WWI. He appeared on the 1920 census as head of household at 260 3d Avenue S., and on the 1930 census as head of household at 145 16th Avenue NE. He lived at 1641 26th Avenue S at the time of his death in 1954.

Children of James Mott Williams, Jr. and Dora Elsie, both born at St. Petersburg, were:

25. i. MARY HOYT WILLIAMS; born Oct 1917; married (1) Fitti; (2) Wunderlich.
   ii. JAMES LEWIS WILLIAMS; born Jul 1925.

He appeared on the 1930 census in the household of J. Mott Williams, Jr. He lived at West Alexandria, OH, at the time of his father’s death in 1954.

15. FRANCES FAY WILLIAMS (James\textsuperscript{2}, John\textsuperscript{1}) was born 7 Sep 1894 at Detroit.\textsuperscript{158} She married Call Prevatt on 3 Jun 1922 at St. Petersburg.\textsuperscript{159,160} She died 11 Jan 1961 at age 66.\textsuperscript{161} Call Prevatt died in 1973 in Hendersonville, NC.\textsuperscript{162}

Frances appeared on the census lists of 1900, 1910, and 1920 in the household of her parents. She appeared on the 1930 census in the household of Call Prevatt, residing at 766 20th Av S.

Children of Frances Fay Williams and Call Prevatt were:

26. i. ROBERT L. PREVATT; born Feb 1929 in Florida; married Ethelind _____.

16. BESSIE D. WILLIAMS (Barnabus\textsuperscript{2}, John\textsuperscript{1}) was born in Nov 1894 at St. Petersburg (1900 census) or in 1896 (1930 census). She married Maxie Harper in 1922.\textsuperscript{163} She died on 27 Dec 1983 at Milwaukee, WI, at age 89.\textsuperscript{164}

Bessie appeared on the census of 1900 and 1910 in the household of her father, Barnabus C. Williams. She appeared on the 1930 census in the household of Maxie Harper at 3648 48th Street N.

“Bessie Williams, worked [as a bill collector] in the [Williams] garage during World War I and was hailed in the St. Petersburg Times as the first woman in the city to wear ‘bifurcated skirts, trouserettes or bloomers as a daily business
“[Mrs. Harper] was born in the general vicinity of First Avenue S., not too far from Tampa Bay. [She] formerly lived in the Clearview section ... where she was one of the organizers of the Clearview PTA and Clearview Home Demonstration Club. During World War II she worked for the Office of Price Administration, receiving a presidential citation for her efforts. She was a member of the Pinellas Gold Star Pioneers, St. Petersburg Historical Society and American Red Cross fund drives.”

“Mrs. Harper’s father and one of his brothers built and operated the first ice plant at First Avenue and First Street S., she says. ‘Steamers would stop and get ice because Tampa didn’t have any ice then.’ ... In those days the steam to operate the plant came from log fires. Logs were cut in 6 or 8-foot lengths and piled on a vacant lot near the ice plant, she explains. In addition to the ice plant, ... ‘We had a blacksmith shop and two little buildings that were office buildings and they all faced on First Avenue S., by the railroad tracks. ... Mrs. Harper’s mother died when she was a child. Her father remarried. And eventually all the children left home. I left home when I was about 13. ... She was in Colorado working in a hotel dining room when she met her husband who was working for the dairy that supplied milk to the hotel. ‘He was a country boy from Alabama...’ The Harpers were married in 1922 and lived briefly on his father’s Alabama farm before returning to St. Petersburg to stay. For 30 years, the Harpers lived at 3648 48th Street N., she says, before moving to their present address at 4015 46th Street N. ‘My husband was hurt in the first accident they had in the fire company here...’”

Children of Bessie D. Williams and Maxie Harper were:

i. MAXIE HARPER, JR.; born 1922 at Herbert, AL; married Florence Elaine Seavers 9 Apr 1958 at St. Petersburg. He appeared on the 1930 census in the household of Maxie Harper (3648 48 Street N). He lived at Laurelville, OH, in 1983. As of Apr 2003, Maxie Harper, Jr. lived at South Bloomingville, OH.

ii. ROBERT A. HARPER; born 1925 in Florida; married Evelyn Prine.

iii. EMILIE C. HARPER; (twin sister of Elizabeth); born 1927 in Florida; married ____ Dye.
She appeared on the 1930 census in the household of Maxie Harper (3648 48 Street N). She was graduated in 1944 at St. Petersburg High School. As of 1994, Emilie lived at Scottsdale, AZ.\textsuperscript{173}

iv. \textbf{ELIZABETH C. HARPER}; (twin sister of Emilie); born 1927 in Florida;\textsuperscript{174} married Gradey Tucker.\textsuperscript{175}

She appeared on the 1930 census in the household of Maxie Harper (3648 48 Street N). She was graduated in 1944 at St. Petersburg High School. As of Mar 2003, Elizabeth lived at Niceville, FL.\textsuperscript{176}

v. \textbf{JOANN HARPER}; born after 1927; married _____ McClellan; she was living at Milwaukee, WI at the time of her mother's death in 1983.\textsuperscript{177}

\textbf{17. GRACE WILLIAMS} (\textit{Barnabus}², \textit{John}¹) was born on 2 Jun 1901.\textsuperscript{178} Her married name was Hargraves. She died on 2 Nov 1985 at Tampa, at age 84.\textsuperscript{179,180}

The Florida death index gives her name as Mary Grace Hargraves, born 2 Jun 1901. “She was a native of St. Petersburg, and had been a long time resident of Tampa/St. Pete area. She was a past Worthy Matron of the Bushnell Chapter No. 10 O.E.S.”\textsuperscript{181}

Children of Grace Williams and Hargraves were:

i. \textbf{CHARLES RAY HARGRAVES}⁴.

ii. \textbf{SHIRLEY HARGARVES}; married _____ Gaventa.

As of 2003, Shirley Hargraves Gaventa lived at Corvallis, OR.\textsuperscript{182} They had a daughter Janey.\textsuperscript{183}

\textit{Generation Four}

\textbf{18. HORACE WILLIAMS, JR.} (\textit{Horace}³, \textit{John}², \textit{John}¹) was born on 3 May 1916 at St. Petersburg.\textsuperscript{184} On 28 Jul 1948, at Atlanta, GA, he married Mary Jeanne Neuling, born 22 Jan 1924, daughter of John Wesley Neuling and Mary Evelyn Essick.\textsuperscript{185} Horace died on 21 Apr 1972 at Baltimore, MD, at age 55.\textsuperscript{186} He was buried at Royal Palm South. Jeanne married William Reeder in 1973 and lives in St. Petersburg.

Horace Jr. went by the nickname “Moose.”\textsuperscript{187} He appeared on the census of 1920 and 1930 in the household of his father. He was graduated from St. Petersburg High School in 1933, where he was Captain of the golf team\textsuperscript{188} His epigram in the 1933 SPHS class book was “Fore!” He was graduated from St. Petersburg Junior College in 1935, and from the Wharton School, University of
Pennsylvania, in 1938. He became manager of the Williams-Beers Ice Co. following the death of his father. In 1935 he won the Florida state amateur golf championship.\(^{189}\)

The *St. Petersburg Times* lists his civic accomplishments: “Horace Williams, Jr., ... resigned April 10 [1972] from the St. Petersburg City Council [for health reasons]. ... The six other members of the council accepted Mr. Williams’ resignation and voted to issue him a plaque of appreciation of his service as District 4 councilman since April 1, 1965. ... He was president of Williams-Beers Ice Co. and later the Ice Service Co. before his retirement in 1954. ... As a councilman, [he] advocated having city-owned Mound Park Hospital (now Bayfront Medical Center) operated by a non-profit corporation, which it has been since 1969; pushed for repeal of a segregation provision in the city charter; led efforts to tighten lot-mowing regulations; advocated municipal redistricting; and pushed for tightening mobile home zoning regulations. Always considered the quiet member of council, [he] often played the role of mediator between liberal and conservative factions. In recent years he more often found himself on the losing side of a vote. But other councilmen, though they may have not agreed with him philosophically, always gave him high marks for integrity and sincerity. He was the last member of a more conservative council that governed St. Petersburg several years ago... [He] was vice mayor in 1968 and was on the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council and the County Charter Study Commission. He attended Westminster United Presbyterian Church and was a member of Suncoasters, Squires and St. Petersburg Yacht Club.”\(^{190}\)

On the occasion of his retirement from City Council, *The St. Petersburg Independent* published this editorial: “HORACE WILLIAMS’ RECORD: SERVICE WITH HONOR ... We have disagreed editorially with many of his stands, but we have never questioned his probity or the sincerity of his stand. And, he has been a positive force for right—notably as an ardent advocate of the council-manager form of government; [and] pushing for repeal of a segregation provision in the city charter... It is a valuable role he has performed, giving the rest of council pause to reflect on actions that otherwise might have been rushed. ... ‘Moose,’ ‘Pussycat,’ whatever the affectionate appellation, we can all hope ... that he will be able to resume service to the community he has lived in all his 55 years.”\(^{191}\)

Children of Horace Williams, Jr. and Mary Jeanne Neuling were:\(^{192}\)
28.   i.  **ROBERT WELLER WILLIAMS**; born 9 Feb 1955 at St. Petersburg; married Tammy Hooper.


Children of Joan C. Williams and Edward Goodrich Acheson IV were:

   i.  **EDWARD GOODRICH ACHESON, V**; born 16 Feb 1960 at St. Petersburg; died 2 Jul 1968, at age 8, in a sailing accident with his father near Madeira Beach. He attended Holy Name Catholic School at Gulfport, FL.

   ii.  **THERESA ACHESON**.

   iii.  **JOAN ACHESON**.


Children of Judith Ann Williams and B. Robert Lambdon were:


   ii.  **KELLY LOUISE LAMBDON**; born 30 Mar 1968.

21.  **JOHN ALFRED WILLIAMS** (*Alfred*, *John*, *John*) was born on 29 Jun 1947 at St. Petersburg. He married Patricia O'Hara on 16 Jun 1968 in St. Petersburg; they were divorced in 1976. He married Donna Ellett in 1978; they were divorced in 1978. He married Dianne Burdick Sep 1982 at St. Petersburg. He lives in St. Petersburg.

Children of John Alfred Williams and Patricia O'Hara were:

   29.   i.  **JOHN ALFRED WILLIAMS, JR.**; born 24 Nov 1971; married Tammy Marie Bailey.


There were no children of John Alfred Williams and Donna Ellett or Dianne Burdick.

22.  **EMILIE VIRGINIA WILLIAMS** (*Chester*, *James*, *John*) was born in 31 Oct 1916 at St. Petersburg. She married Marcus Robinson Bishop in 1941 at St. Petersburg. Marcus was born 11 Aug 1909 and died 1 Dec 1978 in Volusia County FL. Emilie died 17 Sep 2001, also in Volusia County, FL.
She appeared on the census of 1920 and 1930 in the household of Chester Lewis Williams. She lived at Ormond Beach, FL, at the time of her mother’s death in 1982.

Children of Emilie Virginia Williams and Marcus Robinson Bishop were:

i. **MARK RONALD BISHOP**; born 1943 at St. Petersburg; killed in Vietnam in 1967.204

ii. **WAYNE LLOYD BISHOP**; born 1951 at Daytona Beach, FL.

23. **CHESTER LEWIS WILLIAMS, JR.** (Chester\(^i\), James\(^2\), John\(^i\)) was born circa 1924 at St. Petersburg.205 In 1947 he married Hope Leslie Farmer (born 1925) at St. Petersburg.

He appeared on the 1930 census in the household of Chester Lewis Williams (206 18th Avenue S). He graduated in 1942 from St. Petersburg High School. He lived at Evergreen, CO, circa 1982. He currently lives in Scottsdale, AZ.

Children of Chester Lewis Williams, Jr. and Hope Leslie Farmer both born at Melbourne, FL, were:

i. **PAULA ANNE WILLIAMS**; born 1961; married Jeff LaFrenierre 1993 at Durango, CO.

ii. **JANET RUTH WILLIAMS**; born 1961; married Jeff Towndrow 1994 at Tallahassee, FL.

24. **KING LEWIS WILLIAMS, JR.** (King\(^i\), James\(^2\), John\(^i\)) was born in 1924 in Florida.206 He lived at Ypsilanti, MI at the time of his father’s death in 1967. He graduated from St. Petersburg High School in 1941.207

Children of King Lewis Williams, Jr., were:

i. **KING LEWIS WILLIAMS, III.**

25. **MARY HOYT WILLIAMS** (James\(^3\), James\(^2\), John\(^i\)) was born in Oct 1917 in Florida.208 Her married names were Fitti and Wunderlich.209

She appeared on the census of 1920 and 1930 in the household of James Mott Williams, Jr.

Children of Mary Hoyt Williams and Mr. Wunderlich were:

i. **CHRIS WUNDERLICH.**

ii. **JANE WUNDERLICH.**

26. **ROBERT L. PREVATT** (Frances\(^i\), James\(^2\), John\(^i\)) was born in Feb 1929 in Florida.210 He married Ethelind.211 He died circa 1950.
He appeared on the 1930 census in the household of Call Prevatt.

Children of Robert L. Prevatt and Ethelind were:

i. Frances Prevatt.


Robert appeared on the 1930 census in the household of Maxie Harper. “Mr. [Robert] Harper was former manager of Beach Memorial Chapel in St. Pete Beach and at Woodlawn Funeral Home in St. Petersburg for many years. ... [He] was active on the St. Petersburg Centennial Celebration in 1988. He formed a group known as the Descendents of 1888, made up of local residents related to people who lived or worked in St. Petersburg in 1888. A Navy veteran, he was a pharmacist’s mate first class ... during World War II. He was a graduate of St. Petersburg High School, a member of Pass-a-Grille Yacht Club and the St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce.”

Children of Robert A. Harper and Evelyn Prine were:

i. Suzanne Harper.
ii. Annette Harper.
iii. Pamela Harper.

Generation Five

28. Robert Weller Williams (Horace, Horace, John, John) was born on 9 Feb 1955 at St. Petersburg. He first married before 1982 and was divorced. He married Tammy Hooper on 23 Sep 1987 at Cashiers, NC.

Children of Robert Weller Williams by his first marriage were:

i. Jonathan Constantine Williams; born 29 Nov 1982 at Sylva, NC.

Children of Robert Weller Williams and Tammy Hooper were:

i. David Cody Williams; born 23 Nov 1988 at Cashiers, NC.

29. John Alfred Williams, Jr. (John, Alfred, John, John) was born on 24 Nov 1971 at St. Petersburg. He married Tammy Marie Bailey on 20 Aug 1992 at St. Petersburg.
Children of John Alfred Williams, Jr. and Tammy Marie Bailey both born at St. Petersburg, were:


**Endnotes**

1Grismer 1948 217.
2Grismer 1924 224.
3Grismer 1948 272.
4West Coast Title page 4 line 18.
5Independent 23 Sep 1976 1B.
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137Grave marker Royal Palm South Cemetery.
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141Lambdon
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page Numbers</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACHESON, Edward Goodrich, IV</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>HARPER, Maxie</td>
<td>15, 21, 22, 23, 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACHESON, Edward Goodrich, V</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>HARPER, Maxie Jr.</td>
<td>22, 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACHESON, Joan</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>HARPER, Pamela</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACHESON, Theresa</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>HARPER, Robert A</td>
<td>23, 28</td>
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<td>ANDREWS, Lela</td>
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<td>28</td>
</tr>
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<td>ANDREWS, Mitchell</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>HOOPER, Tammy</td>
<td>25, 28, 29</td>
</tr>
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<td>BAILEY, Tammy Marie</td>
<td>26, 29</td>
<td>JORDAN, Annie J</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BELL, Gladys S</td>
<td>11, 18</td>
<td>JORDAN, Jennie</td>
<td>12, 20</td>
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<td>BISHOP, Marcus Robinson</td>
<td>20, 26</td>
<td>JUDGE, Robert C.M.</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>BISHOP, Mark Ronald</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>LAFRENIERRE, Jeff</td>
<td>27</td>
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<td>BISHOP, Wayne Lloyd</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>LAMBDON, B. Robert</td>
<td>19, 25</td>
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<td>BROOKS, Adelia</td>
<td>11, 18, 19</td>
<td>LAMBDON, Kelly Louise</td>
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<td>BROWN, Dora A</td>
<td>11, 18</td>
<td>LAMBDON, Stacey Alison</td>
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<tr>
<td>BURDICK, Dianne</td>
<td>19, 26</td>
<td>LEWIS, Frances Blanche</td>
<td>5, 11, 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHECKINE, Elizabeth</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Millard, Dora Elsie</td>
<td>12, 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLINS, Charlotte</td>
<td>1, 5</td>
<td>Millard, Louis C</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>COX, James A</td>
<td>1, 8</td>
<td>MORSE, Rollin Jacob</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
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<td>COX, Nettie</td>
<td>5, 8, 10, 11, 18, 19</td>
<td>MOTT, Mary</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRAVEN, James</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>NEULING, John Wesley</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRAVEN, Sarah</td>
<td>2, 1, 2</td>
<td>NEULING, Mary Jeanne</td>
<td>17, 24, 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEBRULER, Mary Alice</td>
<td>5, 11, 13</td>
<td>O’HARA, Patricia</td>
<td>19, 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELLETT, Donna</td>
<td>19, 26</td>
<td>OUTWATER, David</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
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<td>ESSICK, Mary Evelyn</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>PREVATT, Call</td>
<td>12, 21, 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FARMER, Hope Leslie</td>
<td>20, 27</td>
<td>PREVATT, Frances</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIELDS, Edward C</td>
<td>18, 25</td>
<td>PREVATT, Robert L</td>
<td>21, 27, 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finnegan, Elizabeth</td>
<td>14, 15</td>
<td>PRINE, Evelyn</td>
<td>23, 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FISHER, Allan Williams</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>RAMM, Frederick W</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FISHER, Clara L</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>RAMM, Paula</td>
<td>12, 19, 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAVEN'TA, Janey</td>
<td>23, 32, 35</td>
<td>REEDER, William H.L.</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAMPTON, William</td>
<td>18, 25</td>
<td>ROWLAND, Eugene B.</td>
<td>5, 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARGRAVES, Charles Ray</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>ROWLAND, Hazel E</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARGRAVES, Shirley</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>SCHIRP, Henry N.</td>
<td>5, 13, 14</td>
</tr>
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<td>HARPER, Annette</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>SCOTT, Archie A</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
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<td>HARPER, Elizabeth C</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>STEWART, Isabella</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
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<td>HARPER, Emilie C</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>TOWNDROW, Jeff</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARPER, JoAnn</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>TROUT, Beatrice M</td>
<td>12, 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TUCKER, Gradey ...................................... 23
WELLER, Albert P. .............................. 16, 17
WELLER, Ida Louise ....................... 10, 16, 17
WILLIAMS, Albert ............................... 10
WILLIAMS, Alfred Theodore .............. 11, 19
WILLIAMS, Austin John ..................... 29
WILLIAMS, Bailey Nichole............... 29
WILLIAMS, Barnabus C. ...4, 5, 14, 15, 16, 22
WILLIAMS, Bessie D. ....................... 15, 21, 22
WILLIAMS, Beth F .............................. 10
WILLIAMS, Blanche ............................. 4, 6
WILLIAMS, Charles M. ........................ 10
WILLIAMS, Chester Lewis ...12, 19, 20, 26, 27
WILLIAMS, Chester Lewis Jr .......... 20, 26, 27
WILLIAMS, Cornelia Mott ................. 20, 26, 27
WILLIAMS, David Cody ..................... 29
WILLIAMS, David S. ............................ 15
WILLIAMS, Dorothy D. ...................... 15
WILLIAMS, Elizabeth Leigh ............... 26
WILLIAMS, Emilie E. C. .................. 5, 13
WILLIAMS, Emilie Virginia ............. 20, 26
WILLIAMS, Ethelind ......................... 21
WILLIAMS, Frances Fay .................... 12, 21
WILLIAMS, Grace .............................. 16, 23
WILLIAMS, Horace ......................... 10, 16, 17, 24
WILLIAMS, Horace Jr ..................... 17, 23, 24, 25
WILLIAMS, Jack ............................... 10
WILLIAMS, James Lewis .................. 21
WILLIAMS, James Mott ............... 5, 11, 12, 13
WILLIAMS, James Mott, Jr......... 12, 21, 27
WILLIAMS, Janet Ruth ..................... 27
WILLIAMS, Joe .................... 12, 21, 27
WILLIAMS, Jimmy ...................... 18
WILLIAMS, Joan C. ......................... 18, 25
WILLIAMS, John Alfred ................. 1, 19, 26
WILLIAMS, John Alfred Jr .............. 26, 29
WILLIAMS, John Arthur ................. 10, 17, 18
WILLIAMS, John Constantine .... 1, 5, 11, 18
WILLIAMS, John Constantine III .... 11, 18
WILLIAMS, John Constantine Jr. 5, 8, 10, 11
WILLIAMS, John R. (II) ................. 5
WILLIAMS, John R. (senior) ............. 1, 4, 5, 6
WILLIAMS, Jonathan Constantine ...... 28
WILLIAMS, Josephine Wagner ........... 4, 5
WILLIAMS, Judith Ann .................... 19, 25
WILLIAMS, King Lewis .................. 12, 20, 27
WILLIAMS, King Lewis III ............ 27
WILLIAMS, King Lewis Jr. .............. 20, 27
WILLIAMS, Mary F ........................... 5
WILLIAMS, Mary Hoyt ................... 21, 27
WILLIAMS, Mary S. ....................... 5, 7, 13
WILLIAMS, Nellie M. ...................... 6
WILLIAMS, Paula Anne .................... 27
WILLIAMS, Robert Weller ............. 25, 28, 29
WUNDERLICH, Chris ...................... 27
WUNDERLICH, Jane ....................... 27
“General” John Constantine Williams, 1817-1892. Portrait made about 1890.

Albert and Horace Williams, c1886, sons of J. C. Williams, Jr., and Nettie Cox Williams.

John and Sarah, c1890.

Williams general merchandise store, on the southwest corner of Central Avenue at Second Street. “Tine” Williams is standing center with open vest.
Nettie Cox Williams at right, c1890. Probably in front of the Williams store at Central and Second Street.

The Williams mansion, on Fourth Street at Fifth Avenue South, c1892. Sarah Williams Armistead is standing at the steps.

J.C. Williams, Jr., boat, *Mermaid*, c1895. ACL railroad pier is in background.

City Drug Store, c1897. Left to right: Wm. Holshouser, druggist and proprietor, Dr. Jason Taylor, Tine Williams, Joe Hedrick, Louis Johnson.
Williams brothers as aldermen, from *The St. Petersburg Times*, 1899.

Arthur (2nd from left) and Horace (4th from left), sons of J.C. Williams, Jr., c1900. Probably in front of the Williams store on Central Avenue.

Independence Day Parade, 1900. J.C. Williams delivery wagon is at right.

School orchestra, c1900. Horace Williams is second from right in the third row.
John C. Williams, Jr., subject of *Times* cartoon, 1901.

Barney Williams in the *Times*, 1901.

Mott Williams, Sr., and family on his excursion boat *Rosebud*, c.1908.

Central at Fourth Street, December 1909, when the “Good Roads” rally returned to the city. Horace Williams and Allan Fisher participated.
Paula Ramm Williams in a 1910 roadster. The Ramm and the Williams’s garages were the first automobile services in the city.

Chester Williams, Sr., in 1910. The well-loaded postman went on to become Superintendent of Mails.

Mott Williams, Jr., c1912, with Virginia Barber and another unidentified.

Mott Williams with Hazel Pittser (left) and Eula Morton (right) at Pass-a-Grille, c1912.
The Elks Club float, Fair and Tourist Week, March 1913. Jack Williams is the driver. These parades became the Festival of States.

Roy S. Hanna was postmaster in 1915. Chester Williams is in the back row, 5th, from left. Probably at Hanna’s home on First Avenue North.

Wm. L. Straub was postmaster in 1916. Chester Williams is at left between the pillars in the back row. This building was the old city hall.

Williams Garages, on the corner of Third Street and Third Avenue South, in 1918. This corner housed an automobile agency for 90 years.
Post Office Baseball team, c1920. Chester Williams is at left end of back row.

Barney Williams in 1929 on his Harley used to commute to Tarpon Springs. His twin granddaughters, Emilie and Elizabeth Harper, are in the sidecar.

Horace Williams, City Councilman, is at right with city officials and Casey Stengel in 1965.